

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA
INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 110800

CASABLANCA - FOR REGIONAL FISHERIES ATTACHE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, MO

SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF REGIONAL FISHERY ATTACHES
TRIP TO WASHINGTON

REF: STATE 90967, APRIL 8, 1978

1. THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE (NMFS), NOAA, COMMERCE AND DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE THE REGIONAL FISHERY ATTACHE FOR AFRICA REMAINING IN WASHINGTON THROUGH MAY 31 FOR CONSULTATIONS AFTER THE MAY ATTACHE MEETING.

2. NMFS IS WORKING ON A NUMBER OF COMMERCIAL REPORTS ON AFRICAN FISHERIES, INCLUDING THE WEST AFRICAN SHRIMP
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FISHERY, SOUTH AFRICAN TRAWL FISHERY, MOZAMBIQUE SHELL-FISH, AND WEST AFRICAN FISHERY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS. NMFS WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE THE RFAS ASSISTANCE ON THESE REPORTS AND HIS ADVICE ON NMFS PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE U.S. EXPORTS TO AND INVESTMENTS IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES. NMFS AND COMMERCE APPRECIATE RFA'S EFFORTS IN PROMOTING SALES OF U.S. FISHING VESSEL AND WOULD APPRECIATE DETAILED

CONSULTATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT.

3. BASED ON THE RFAS EXCELLENT SERIES OF FOREIGN FISHERY LEAFLETS ON AFRICAN COUNTRIES, NMFS HAS RECEIVED MANY REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM U.S. FISHING COMPANIES, SHIPYARDS, AQUACULTURE COMPANIES, CONSULTANTS, ETC. ON MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES IN AFRICA. MANY OF THESE COMPANIES HAVE EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN MEETING WITH THE RFA BUT ARE UNABLE TO TRAVEL TO CASABLANCA. THE ADDITIONAL TIME WOULD GIVE NMFS THE OPPORTUNITY TO ARRANGE THE NECESSARY CONSULTATIONS WHICH MAY BENEFIT U.S. EXPORTERS.

4. DEPARTMENT AND NMFS HAVE RECEIVED A NUMBER OF REQUESTS CONCERNING REGULATION OF FOREIGN FISHING BY WEST AFRICAN COASTAL COUNTRIES (REFTEL). DEPARTMENT AND NMFS WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE MEETING WITH RFA TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION AND TO HELP REVIEW RESPONSES TO REFTEL.

5. NMFS IS ALSO PLANNING TO PUBLISH A SERIES OF REPORTS ON AFRICAN FISHERIES SIMILAR TO THOSE PREPARED ON THE FISHING INDUSTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA WHICH WERE PREVIOUSLY SENT TO RFA. THE ATTACHE'S ASSISTANCE IN ADVISING NMFS CONCERNING THE FORMAT AND CONTENT OF THESE REPORTS WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATED.
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6. CABLE RESPONSE SOONEST IS REQUESTED. VANCE

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